

METHOD OF CONTROLLING ENGAGEMENT OF  
A STARTING CLUTCH IN AN AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION  
DURING VEHICLE LAUNCH

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A control strategy is provided for controlling engagement of a clutch during vehicle launch. A feed-back input command and a feed-forward input command are utilized and summed to determine a clutch control command. The feed back input command uses a reference slip profile having a low speed portion and a high speed portion. In the low speed portion, the slip is a function of engine speed. In the high speed portion, the slip is a function of transmission output speed or vehicle speed.